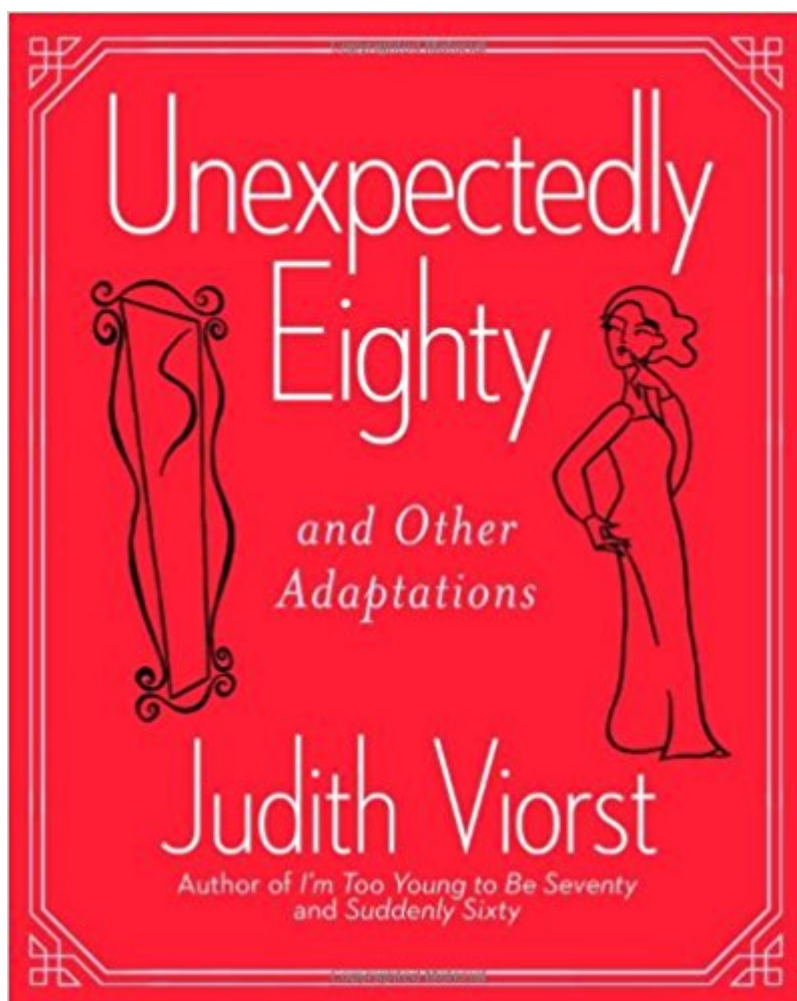




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Unexpectedly Eighty: And Other Adaptations



Synopsis

Judith Viorst returns with more poems in her “Decades” poetry series detailing the highs and lows of being an octogenarian. Continuing the comedic insight from >, these verses of memories and advice from eighty years of love, marriage, and grandchildren are sure to bring laughs. What does it mean to be eighty? In her wise and playful poems, Judith Viorst discusses love, friendship, grand parenthood, and all the particular marvels and otherwise of this extraordinary decade. She describes the wonder of seeing the world with new eyes not because of revelation but because of a successful cataract operation. She promises not to gently fade away, and not to drive after daylight’s faded away either. She explains how she’s gotten to be a “three-desserts” grandmother (“Just don’t tell your mom!”), shares how memory failure can keep you married, and enumerates her hopes for the afterlife (which she doesn’t believe in, but if it does exist, her sister-in-law better not be there with her). As Viorst gleefully attests, eighty is not too old to dream, to flirt, to drink, and to dance. It’s also not too late to give up being cheap or to take up with a younger man of seventy-eight. Zesty, hopeful, and full of the pleasures of living, Viorst’s poems speak to her legions of readers, who recognize themselves in her knowing observations, in her touching reflections, and in her joyful affirmations. Funny, moving, inspirational, and true—the newest in Judith Viorst’s beloved “decades” series extols the virtues, victories, frustrations, and joys of life.

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Aging

Customer Reviews

Judith Viorst was born and brought up in New Jersey and has lived in Washington, DC, since 1960, when she married Milton Viorst, a political writer. A graduate in 1981 of the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, Viorst writes in many different areas: science books, children's chapter and picture books—including the beloved *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, which has sold some four million copies; adult fiction and nonfiction including the New York Times bestseller, *Necessary Losses*; poetry for children and adults, and four musicals. Her most recent book of poetry for children, *What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About?* was published in 2016. *Lulu Is Getting a Sister* is the fourth book in the Lulu series.

I love JUDITH VIORST, having fallen in love with her writings when I first read her "How Did I Ever Get To Be 40 And Other Atrocities", a wonderful, fun and witty look about the transition in our lives from refusing to acknowledge growing older to facing reality. Growing older is an absolute must, unless one wishes to simply give up and face the Grand Reaper at an early age. Growing older is also wonderful: We learn that the important things of life really do matter; that love does last; that our families are our truest friends, our best companions; that the joy of laughter, of looking into the face of a loved one, of listening to the songs of birds, of watermelon and ice cream, of dipping our toes into a pool of cold water on a sunny summer's day, enrich our lives beyond measure. JUDITH VIORST knows all this, and so should we.

Purchased for my mom. There's much truth to generations not understanding those that precede them -- until you are standing in their shoes. I didn't understand all of the dynamics of being in a strong love relationship until I was in one, nor the pain of losing a close friend to death, nor of parenthood. The poems in this collection reach to an age I watch daily, but don't and can't understand until -- hopefully -- I may reach it. That wisdom eludes me -- all of us who aren't 'there' yet. But the stories held within made my mom smile, and wistful, and perhaps touch her. Difficult to expect a lot from a little book. I do wish it had been longer, but perhaps the knowledge and enjoyment is in the brevity, not unlike to joy one can feel not so much in the conversations but in the silence of being with another.

I have read all her books on various decades from twenties on up. I was so hoping she would make it to 80 so she would write another one (as I recently turned 80) and was thrilled to see she had made it also and had written another one for this stage....Rusti Van Rooy

Judith Viorst has gotten me thru every decade of my adult life. This book is terrific for seventy and eightysomethings!

Every book Judith Viorst writes to celebrate another decade speaks personally to me. I always watch for the next one and I hope we both live to be 100!

I enjoy all the books written by Judith Viorst - I read her children's books to my grandchildren and purchase those that mark the decades in a woman's life.

I bought this book as a birthday gift for my sister. She received it on time and was very pleased with it. There was only one problem! She didn't have a clue who sent it to her. Did I miss something in the ordering process where I should have entered my name. Thanks and let me know. J R

Satisfied

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